



**Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service**  
2301 North Cameron Street, Room G-19  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9405  
*Marc Tosiano, State Statistician*

717-787-3904  
Fax: 717-782-4011  
nass-pa@nass.usda.gov  
www.usda.gov/nass

*A field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture*

## Press Release

**Press Release Announcement -- March 24, 2003 -- For Immediate Use**  
*For the electronic press release, please visit [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/)*

### Pennsylvania Egg Production Increased 4 Percent in February

HARRISBURG --- Egg production in Pennsylvania during February 2003 totaled 520 million eggs, an increase of 4 percent over the 499 million produced in 2002, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. The total number of layers averaged 24.4 million during February, compared with 23.7 million one year earlier. Production per 100 layers was 2,131 eggs during the month, compared with 2,114 eggs in February 2002.

Egg-type chicks hatched during February 2003 totaled 3.7 million, down 9 percent from the 4.1 million hatched the previous February. Broiler-type chicks hatched totaled 11.2 million during February 2003, virtually unchanged from the same month last year.

The Nation's laying flocks produced 6.62 billion eggs during February 2003, up 1 percent from a year ago. The total number of layers during February averaged 338 million, slightly higher than the average number of layers during February 2002. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,957 eggs, up slightly from the 1,946 eggs in February 2002.

Egg-type chicks hatched in the United States during February totaled 30.0 million, down 13 percent from February 2002. Broiler-type hatch totaled 695 million, is down 1 percent from the previous February. There were 23.8 million turkey poults placed in the United States during February 2003, down 2 percent from the placements during the same month a year ago.